

Message Text

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61

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DRAFTED BY EB/MA:RKBANK:BST

APPROVED BY EB/MA:RAWEBB

PM/AE:GGOPLINGER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 149494

E.O.11652:GDS

TAGS:PFOR, PBOR, MCAP, TECH, ETRN, UK, GW

SUBJECT:NUCLEAR POWERED MERCHANT VESSELS: US POSITION ON
1962 BRUSSELS CONVENTION

1. IN INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS WITH BRITISH REPRESENTATIVES IN
WASHINGTON, DEPTOFFS WEREMADE AWARE OF MISCONCEPTION HELD
BY HERR REINHARD GANTEN OF FRG MINISTRY OF JUSTICE CON-
CERNING U.S. POSITION ON LIABILITY LIMITS IN BRUSSELS CON-
VENTION AND OBTAINED DURING JUNE 19, 1974, TALKS IN BONN
WITH FACT-FINDING GROUP HEADED BY MR. BANK.

2. IT IS NOT, REPEAT NOT, U.S. POSITION THAT REVISION OR
MODIFICATION OF THE CONVENTION PROVISIONS DEALING WITH THE
LIMITS OF LIABILITY IS REQUIRED. IN HIS MEETING WITH THE
FRG OFFICIALS, MR. BANK POINTED OUT THAT IN ADDITION TO THE
WARSHIP PROBLEM U.S. ALSO FACED QUESTION OF DISCREPANCY
BETWEEN LIMITS OF LIABILITY SPECIFIED IN ITS OWN INTERNAL
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LEGISLATION AND THOSE SET OUT IN BRUSSELS CONVENTION,

BUT THAT THIS MATTER COULD BE RESOLVED BY INTERNAL USG
LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY CHANGES.

3. DEPARTMENT REQUESTS EMBASSY INFORM MR. GANTEN OF THE
ABOVE. KISSINGER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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